



June 24, 2002

Ruston Foundry Superfund Site

SELECTION OF REMEDY

Alexandria, Louisiana

EPA Region 6 Selects Remedy for Ruston Foundry Site

What is the Final Remedial Decision?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has signed a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Ruston Foundry Site in Alexandria, Louisiana. The Remedial Alternative for cleaning up the Ruston Foundry Site is Stabilization and Offsite Disposal. This alternative meets the cleanup levels, is easily constructed, and is expected to achieve long-term permanence and risk reduction through treatment and offsite disposal within a reasonable time frame. It is expected to allow the property to be used for the reasonably anticipated future land use, which is recreational/commercial. Because the waste material will be disposed offsite, operations and maintenance activity and five-year reviews of the remedy will not be required.

The ROD presents EPA's determination that remedial actions are necessary to ensure the protection of human health and the environment. Based on the information available at this time, the EPA and the State of Louisiana believe the Remedial Alternative will be protective of human health and the environment, will comply with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements, and will utilize permanent solutions and alternative treatment technologies to the maximum extent practicable.

The EPA's decision is in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund), 42 U.S.C. § 9601 et seq., and to the extent practicable, the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 C.F.R. Part 300. This decision is supported by and based on the Administrative Record file for this site.

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) concurs with the final decision for this site.

What are the Details of the Final Remedial Alternative?

Implementation of this remedial alternative at the Ruston Foundry Site would involve the following general sequence over approximately one year.

- During cleanup activity, efforts will be made to control dust and run-off to limit the amount of materials that may travel offsite. Air monitoring and short-term monitoring of the surface water and ground water will be done during cleanup to make sure that control measures are working.
- Initial clearing and grubbing will be needed for Site access and cleanup activities.
- The asbestos containing material will be combined onsite, contained, and transported offsite to a licensed disposal facility. This work will be done by an asbestos contractor and measures to control asbestos dust will be undertaken.
- The underground storage tank, its contents, and surrounding contaminated soils will be removed and disposed offsite. Confirmation sampling will be needed to make sure wastes are removed.
- Existing buildings will be demolished, and the debris will be removed and disposed offsite.
- The former onsite water supply well will be plugged and abandoned.
- Soils contaminated with lead and antimony will be removed and separated from the hazardous waste foundry material and the building debris. Each waste will be sampled to make sure the wastes are removed and separated properly.
- The hazardous waste stockpile will be stabilized. This process can take several forms, but basically will involve mixing the material with a reagent (cement, proprietary agents, flyash, etc.) to physically or chemically bind the metals to prevent leaching. A treatability study will be needed to identify the proper agent and the proper mixing ratio. Mixing can be accomplished with standard construction equipment, a pug mill, or with tilling/discing equipment. Once the material has been stabilized, it will be sampled to make sure that there is no release of contaminants.
- The stabilized material and the lead and antimony contaminated soil will be disposed offsite.

- The excavated areas will be backfilled with clean fill and compacted. **Topsoil will be placed over the area and a natural vegetative cover will be established.**
- Institutional controls, such as land use restrictions, should not be required because none of the waste material will be left onsite. In addition, long-term monitoring of the surface water in Mill Street Ditch and Chatlin Lake Canal as well as the ground water should not be required. However, short-term monitoring of the surface water and ground water may be necessary.



How Much will the Cleanup Cost?

Estimated Capital Cost: \$5,007,412
 Estimated Annual O&M Cost: \$0
 Estimated Present Worth Cost: \$5,007,412

This cost estimate is considered accurate only to +50/-30 percent. The cost estimates have been based on the information that is currently available for the Site and on the cost data available from EPA guidance. A revised cost estimate should be prepared with additional detail after developing a conceptual design.



What are the Expected Outcomes of the Selected Remedy?

The expected results of the cleanup are listed below:

- The Site will no longer present an unacceptable risk to human health because the wastes will be removed.
- The property will be suitable for recreational/commercial land use.
- The remedy will be protective of ground water by removing soil that exceeded the Louisiana screening criteria for concentrations protective of ground water.

- The selected remedy is anticipated to provide community revitalization impacts because it will be compatible with Alexandria's Site reuse plan.

What is the Difference Between Alternatives 4 and 5, and Why Does EPA Choose 4 Rather Than 5?

Alternative 4, Stabilization and Offsite Disposal, requires that the hazardous wastes be stabilized (treated) onsite. Following treatment, the hazardous waste, along with other site wastes (soil, underground storage tank, asbestos, debris) will be shipped offsite for disposal.

Alternative 5, Excavation and Offsite Disposal, requires that the hazardous waste, along with other site wastes, be removed and shipped offsite for disposal. Alternative 5 does not treat the hazardous wastes prior to disposal. The cost difference between Alternatives 4 and 5 is due to the stabilization process. By treating the hazardous waste onsite prior to disposal, the waste can be disposed of in a RCRA subtitle D facility. Untreated hazardous waste must be disposed of in a RCRA subtitle C facility which is more costly.

During remedial action for Alternatives 4 and 5, air monitoring and dust suppression methods will be used to control air emissions. The risks associated with removal of wastes will be about the same for each alternative because both involve the excavation of wastes and the shipment of waste through the neighborhood. Alternative 4 may be safer because the hazardous waste will be treated prior to offsite disposal. Once the waste is removed, a long-term monitoring plan will not be needed.

Remedial action for both alternatives is estimated at 9 to 12 months. Confirmation samples will be taken to make sure that we have met our cleanup-level. At the completion of remedial action, all hazardous waste and contaminated site wastes will have been removed, and the site will be available for reuse.

As part of the feasibility study, we are required to identify a range of alternatives that include treatment and containment options. The range represents those alternatives that will address site contamination through various techniques or methods and at various costs. Using the nine criteria, we compare the various alternatives to choose one. Alternative 4 was selected because the hazardous waste will be treated, all site wastes will be removed, the site will be available for reuse, the construction time frame is relatively short and cost-effective, no future remedy monitoring is necessary, it is protective of human health and the environment, and meets all Applicable, Relevant and Appropriate Requirements, or ARARs.

Site Background

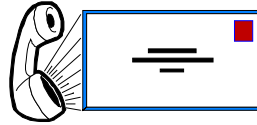
The Ruston Foundry Site is an abandoned metal foundry that operated from 1908 until 1985 and is located on the southeast side of Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana with geographical coordinates of 31°17'56" north latitude and 92°26'18" west longitude (E&E, 1998). The Site is located in an urban area with mixed development within the city limits of Alexandria. The Site is not currently operational, and there are no onsite workers. The nearest resident is located approximately 80 feet northwest of the Site (ATSDR, 2001), and approximately 6,000 residents are located within a one-mile radius of the Site. There is a recreational park located approximately 1/4-mile southeast of the Site, and schools identified within one mile of the Site include Peabody Elementary, Peabody Magnet, Jones Street Junior High, Bolton High, South Alexandria Sixth Grade School, and Alma Redwine Primary School.

The Ruston Foundry property is 4.98 acres and the Louisiana Pine Products (LPP) property is 1.62 acres for a total Site acreage of 6.6 acres. The LPP property is part of the Site due to Ruston conducting historical operations on that property. The Ruston Foundry property consists primarily of dilapidated structures and building foundations overgrown with thick brush, and the LPP property is a flat grassy area. The Site is bordered by a series of abandoned railroad tracks to the west. Chatlin Lake Canal borders the Ruston property to the northeast and east, and Mill Street Ditch borders the Ruston property to the south-southeast and LPP to the north. Residential property is located to the north and east of the Ruston Foundry property across the canal and to the east and south of LPP. Historical and active industrialized areas lie further west and north of the Site.

Ruston Foundry operated from 1908 until 1985. From the beginning of operation until October 1983, it was operated under the name Ruston Foundry and Machine Shops, Ltd. In 1983, the facility was reincorporated and began operating under the name Ruston Foundry and Machine Shops, Inc. In November 1990, the Ruston Foundry and Machine Shops, Inc. corporation charter was revoked by the Louisiana Secretary of State for failure to file its corporate annual report (EPA, 1998).

Foundry operations resulted in metals contaminated waste which was dispersed throughout the property as fill material. As a result of this disposal activity, foundry-derived process wastes (slag, foundry sand piles, metal scrap, and castings) cover most of the Site and have contaminated the soil. Contaminants are found in the canal sediments and surface water due to runoff of Site materials. Source materials in the form of drums of sludge were removed from the Site during the time-critical removal action.

For More Information



For further information on the Ruston Foundry Site, please contact:

Katrina Coltrain, Remedial Project Manager

U.S. EPA (6SF-LP)
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202
(214) 665-8143 or 1-800-533-3508 (toll-free)

Janetta Coats, Community Involvement Coordinator

U.S. EPA (6SF-PO)
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202
(214) 665-7308 or 1-800-533-3508 (toll-free)

Nora Lane, Project Manager

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Inactive & Abandoned Sites Division
P.O. Box 82178
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70884-2178
(225) 765-0487 or 1-888-263-5424 (Toll-free)

All news media inquiries should be directed to Dave Bary, EPA Region 6 Press Office, at (214) 665-2200.

Information Repositories

The Administrative Record File is available for review at the following locations:

Rapides Parish Public Library
411 Washington Street
Alexandria, LA 71301
(318) 442-1840
Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sun. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

U.S. EPA Region 6 Library
7th Floor, Ste. 12D13
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202
(214) 665-2792
Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

On the Web...

Information can also be found on the U.S. EPA Internet Homepage at:

U.S. EPA Headquarters: www.epa.gov
U.S. EPA Region 6: www.epa.gov/region6
U.S. EPA Region 6 Superfund Division:
www.epa.gov/region6/superfund

*What's Inside: U.S. EPA Signs the Record of Decision
for the Ruston Foundry Superfund Site*



**U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue (6SF-PO)
Dallas, Texas 75202**